

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. An illuminated remote control device, comprising:
a housing having an outer surface and a cavity therein, the housing defining
at least one translucent portion adapted for the transmission of light from the cavity
to the outer surface;
at least one control feature adjacent the outer surface;
10 transmitter electronics adapted for wireless communication and operable by
the at least one control feature; and
at least one light source operable by the at least one control feature and
adapted to emit light in the visible spectrum into the cavity, the cavity adapted to
contain the transmitter electronics and the at least one light source therein, the at
15 least one translucent portion adapted to provide a conduit to guide light from the
cavity to the outer surface.
2. The illuminated remote control device of claim 1, wherein the at least one
translucent portion comprises:
an aperture extending from the cavity to the outer surface; and
20 a window coupled within the aperture and extending at least a portion of the
length of the aperture, the window comprising a translucent material.
3. The illuminated remote control device of claim 2, wherein the housing
comprises a first side and a second side defining an aperture there between about a
perimeter edge; and wherein the window comprises:
25 a light guide positioned in the aperture between the first side and second
side, the light guide having a light guide edge defining at least a portion of the
perimeter edge, the light guide adapted to provide a conduit to guide light from the
cavity to one or more portions of the outer surface.

4. The illuminated remote control device of claim 1, wherein the housing comprises a first side and a second side defining a perimeter edge; and wherein the window comprises; and wherein the at least one translucent portion comprises:
a light lens aperture extending from the cavity to the outer surface; and
5 a light lens within the light lens aperture and adapted to provide a light conduit to a portion of a perimeter edge and a portion of the first side.
5. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the at least one control feature adjacent the outer surface comprises at least one first control button
10 and at least one second control button; and wherein the first side further comprises:
a first recessed portion and a second recessed portion adjacent the first recess portion, and a ridge there between, the first recessed portion adapted to accept the at least one first control button therein, and the second recessed portion adapted to accept the at least one second control button therein, the first and second control
15 buttons adapted to project from the first and second recessed portions to an elevation substantially flush with the outer surface.
6. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the second side comprises an accessory attachment aperture adapted to permit the coupling of a
20 predetermined accessory to the housing.
7. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide comprises a substantially planar sheet of translucent material.
- 25 8. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide comprises a substantially planar sheet of a translucent material having a light guide aperture, the light guide aperture having an internal edge adapted to provide an entry conduit for the light from the cavity.

9. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide comprises a substantially planar sheet of a translucent material, at least a portion of which comprising a series of diffraction ridges adapted to distribute the light from the light source throughout the light guide and substantially uniformly about the perimeter edge.
10. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide comprises at least one translucent channel and at least one light modifying area, the translucent channel adapted to transmit light from the cavity to a predetermined portion of the perimeter edge, and the light modifying area adapted to change, diminish and/or block the light from predetermined portions of the perimeter edge.
11. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide edge comprises a substantially smooth surface.
12. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide edge comprises a plurality of vertical grooves adapted to modify the distribution of light emitting from the light guide edge.
13. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide edge comprises a plurality of horizontal grooves adapted to modify the distribution of light emanating from the light guide edge.
14. The illuminated remote control device of claim 3, wherein the light guide edge comprises portions having one of at least two different light transmission properties.

15. An illuminated remote control device, comprising:
- at least one light source;
 - a power source;
 - a transmitter adapted for radio frequency communication with a receiver to
- 5 control the operation of a device;
- at least one switch;
 - a housing defining an outer surface and a cavity, the cavity adapted to house
- the at least one switch, power source, the at least one light source, and the
- transmitter, the housing comprising a first side and a second side defining a
- 10 perimeter edge;
- a control feature operable from the outer surface to operate the switch to
- close a circuit including the power source and one or more of the transmitter and
- the one or more light sources; and
- a light guide defining at least a portion of the perimeter edge, the light guide
- 15 adapted to provide a conduit for the transmission of light from the cavity to the
- outer surface of the housing.
16. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, further comprising:
- a light lens aperture extending from the cavity to a portion of the perimeter
- 20 edge and a portion of the first side; and
- a light lens within the light lens aperture and adapted to provide a light
- conduit to the portion of a perimeter edge and the portion of the first side.
17. The illuminated remote control device of claim 16, wherein the housing
- 25 further comprises an accessory attachment aperture extending from the cavity to the
- outer surface.

18. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the first side and second side define an aperture there between about the perimeter edge; the light guide coupled within the aperture between the first side and second side, the light guide having a light guide edge defining at least a portion of the perimeter edge, the
5 light guide adapted to provide a conduit to guide light from the cavity to one or more portions of the outer surface.

19. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide comprises a substantially planar sheet of translucent material.

10 20. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide comprises a substantially planar sheet of a translucent material having a light guide aperture, the light guide aperture having an internal edge adapted to provide an entry conduit for the light from the light source.

15 21. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide comprises a substantially planar sheet of a translucent material, at least a portion of which comprising a series of diffraction ridges adapted to distribute the light from the cavity throughout the light guide and substantially uniformly about the perimeter edge.

20 22. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide comprises at least one translucent channel and at least one light modifying area, the translucent channel adapted to transmit light from the cavity to a predetermined portion of the perimeter edge, and the light modifying area adapted to change,
25 diminish and/or block the light from predetermined portions of the perimeter edge.

23. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide edge comprises a substantially smooth surface.

24. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide edge comprises a plurality of vertical grooves adapted to modify the distribution of light emitting from the light guide edge.

5 25. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide edge comprises a plurality of horizontal grooves adapted to modify the distribution of light emanating from the light guide edge.

10 26. The illuminated remote control device of claim 15, wherein the light guide edge comprises portions having one of at least two different light transmission properties.